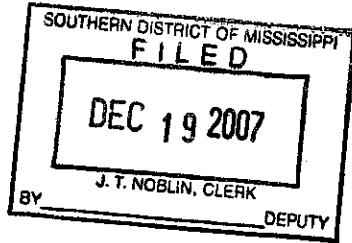




Delta State University

Department of Social Work

December 12, 2007



Mr. J. T. Noblin, Clerk
United States District Court for the
Southern District of Mississippi
United States Courthouse
245 East Capitol Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39201

3:40 v 251

Re: *Olivia Y.* Settlement Agreement

Mr. Noblin:

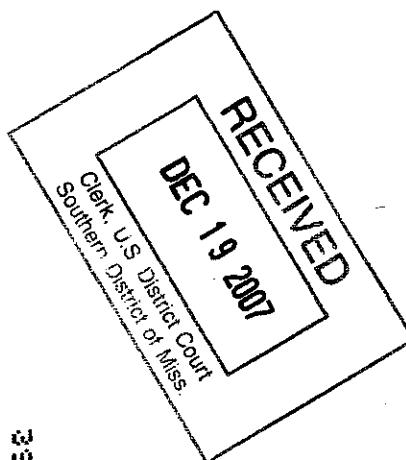
On behalf of the Mississippi Social Work Education Consortium, composed of the ten public and private institutions of higher education offering accredited social work degrees in the state, I wish to strongly encourage the court to approve the *Olivia Y.* Settlement Agreement. The Agreement, if fully implemented, promises to correct any deep-seated problems in the state's troubled child welfare system.

The education of qualified personnel to provide services will be vital to successful implementation of the Settlement. The court should be aware that Mississippi's schools of social work stand ready to do their part in meeting this essential requirement of system reform.

Sincerely,

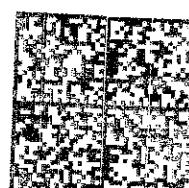
Alinda Sledge
Chair, MSWE

Delta State University
Department of Social Work
Box 3172
Cleveland, MS 38733



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Mr. J. T. Noblin, Clerk
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